

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical element comprising both transparent areas and ~~essentially~~substantially non-transparent areas, wherein
 - the transparent areas are arranged such that individual, intermediate, ~~essentially~~substantially non-transparent areas are ~~essentially~~substantially invisible to the naked eye, at least when the optical element is viewed in a predetermined range;
 - the ~~essentially~~substantially non-transparent areas are arranged close to each other and extend at right angles to a transparent face such that the transparent areas have a depth/width ratio that causes the optical element to allow, at a given point on the transparent face, passage of light with given angles of incidence, while light having other angles of incidence are unable to pass through the optical element at the given point, and
 - the optical element comprises a structure that forms at least a part of a solar cell~~cell~~,cell,
 - the non-transparent areas have openings filled by the transparent areas, and
 - the transparent areas and the non-transparent areas are located in the same plane.
2. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that said ~~essentially~~substantially non-transparent areas form a continuous face, such that the transparent areas appear as openings in the continuous face.
3. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 2, characterised in that said openings are elongate, whereby they have, in a given direction in a plane of the continuous face, an extent that ~~considerably~~ exceeds the extent in a direction at right angles thereto in the plane of the continuous face.

4. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that said transparent areas constitute a continuous face, such that the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas appear as islands in the continuous face.

5. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that the transparent areas and the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas are arranged in a mutually regular pattern.

6. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that the transparent areas have, at least in one direction in the plane of the face, an extent that is a maximum ten times the extent of the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas at right angles to the face.

7. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that the transparent areas are arranged such that the individual, intermediate, ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas have an extent that is, at least in one direction in the plane of the face, less than 10 mm.

8. (Original) An optical element according to claim 7, characterised in that the transparent areas are arranged such that the individual, intermediate, non-transparent areas have an extent that is, at least in one direction in the plane of the face, smaller than 1 mm.

9. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 8, characterised in that the transparent areas are arranged such that the individual, intermediate, ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas have an extent that, at least in one direction in the plane of the face, is less than 100 μm .

10. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas ~~consist of a material with a low reflectivity, such that light is only to a limited extent reflected from the surfaces of the~~

~~essentially, non-transparent areas~~ include any combination of a particulate semiconductor material and a particulate metallic material.

11. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 1 characterised in that that it is configured as a film that can be attached to a surface on another optical element.

12. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that it is configured as an integral part of a window pane.

13. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that at least a part of the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas are configured for functioning as an electrode in a solar cell.

14. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 13, characterised in that said solar cell is a photo-electro-chemical solar cell.

15. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 14, characterised in that the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas comprise a semi-conductor, on which a suitable dye is adsorbed, and are configured for functioning as a photo-electrode.

16. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 14, characterised in that the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas comprise electrically conductive particulate material and are configured for functioning as a counter electrode .

17. (Currently Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, characterised in that the ~~essentially~~ substantially non-transparent areas comprise surfaces that are configured as solar cells.

18. (Previously Presented) An optical element according to claim 17, characterised in that said solar cells are configured as thin-film solar cells.

19. (New) An optical element according to claim 1, wherein the transparent areas include a transparent substrate.